

FOR BETTER ROADS

BENEFITS FROM GOOD ROADS

Increase Value of Every Acre of Land Adjoining—Correct Principles Being Followed.

Slowly but surely farmers are everywhere coming to the realization that good roads increase the value of every acre adjoining or in proximity to them, and that the best of land will be hard to sell if it can be reached only through heavy, muddy roads the greater portion of the year. In so far as our section (northern Indiana) is concerned, the progress in making good roads has been quite marked during the last five years, says a writer in Farmers' Review. As soon as it was announced that the Lincoln highway would have its course through our section, the value of farms lying along and near this course increased to quite a degree, in some instances as much as 25 per cent.

It is really astonishing how foolishly the methods of road making were formerly carried on. Farmers had fallen into a habit of working on the roads in a very different way from what they worked on their own farms. It often looked as if some feared they might do more work than their neighbors—hence they were determined to do less. Sometimes, in fact nearly always, the most incompetent man in the district was chosen supervisor, and he often had great difficulty in prevailing upon the farmers to do enough work to enable him to make proper returns to the commissioners.

Another matter quite noticeable in those days was that in making roads, all principles of good road making were as a rule violated. No effort was made to drain the roadway. It was simply thrown up a little higher than the roadsides so that when the heavy rains came the water, instead of running off, would settle into the depressions made by the wagon wheels and remain there until slowly evaporated, the ruts in the meantime growing deeper and deeper. The farmers themselves despised the roads heartily.

As to materials for road making, it was the almost universal rule to take that most convenient. If it happened to be good gravel, well and good, but if, as in a large majority of cases, it happened to be sand, it was used just the same.

But in these days such roads will no longer be tolerated. We have in northern Indiana any number of good gravel beds and from these gravel is drawn and spread upon the roadbed to a good depth. In the course of a short time it is possible with such good ma-



In Ute Pass, Near Manitou, Colo.

terial, and a knowledge of how to make roads, to have a hard, smooth highway that is a credit to the district and a delight to the traveler. Even in sections where gravel cannot be found naturally, it has been found a paying proposition in many ways to get it shipped in by rail.

California Improving Roads.
The seven counties comprising southern California will spend \$7,000,000 this year in road construction. The schedule includes 324 miles of concrete boulevard, 160 miles of decomposed granite boulevard and 290 miles of desert highway.

Los Angeles county, which already claims the finest highway system in the country, will spend nearly half of the total named. It already has 404 miles of asphalt boulevards.

Encouraging Thrifty Growth.
Transplanting of cabbage, tomato and other plants encourages a thrifty growth of root and stem. Neglect transplanting and when ready to put in the garden the plants will be spindling and weak and may not survive.

Growing Radishes.
Radishes should be grown quickly and pulled at the proper time. They soon become hard and woody. The best plan with radishes is to sow a short row every week until it is too late in the season to sow them.

Dairy

Crops

SECURE BEST RESULTS

Lettuce Ranks High in Commercial Horticulture.

Size of Seed Has Not Been Given Careful Study Until Recently—"Heading Up" Capabilities Are of Much Importance.

(By M. CUMMINGS.)

Lettuce is a standard vegetable crop, largely grown in farm gardens and ranking high in commercial horticulture as a forcing crop; hence its inclusion in these seed sorting experiments. Although a seed-bed crop, it is often grown in places where space is expensive, where intensive culture prevails, and where crop uniformity and even maturity are of prime importance. On this account growers now carefully consider both seed and varietal choice. In some hothouse districts only certain varieties are deemed suitable for greenhouse culture; and a few progressive growers select only the locally-grown seed now recognized as strains of commercial varieties. Although many methods of seed selection have been adopted, the influence of seed size has not been given careful study until more or less recently.

Since lettuce is seldom sold by weight, a comparison of the value of different-sized seeds on this basis is of little account. Uniformity of maturing and relative "heading-up" capabilities are of more importance. The formation of good, firm heads, making possible the growth of white, crisp, and highly-edible center-leaves, is characteristic of a good quality of lettuce. That good "heading-up" characteristics are related to the size of the seed has been found by extensive and careful experiments carried on for several seasons. As to the results of these experiments, several points are worthy of note in summarizing. Marked differences in favor of large seed appear in the seedling



Head Lettuce of Quality.

stage, a point of little value in itself were it not for the fact that an early advantage influences later growth. Large seeds start the plants off better; and great leaf surface area in early life is of permanent benefit. Moreover, heavier plants, better heads, and greater uniformity at edible maturity are usually secured. In every instance and at almost every stage of growth it could be seen that the plants grown from large seed were much more uniform in stature and in time and manner of heading. Plants grown from small seed were very variable in size and quality—some very good, a few mediocre, and many very poor. Some headed early, but most of them were tardy in forming the heart and in firming the head.

It seems reasonable to conclude that a large sized seed is a factor in producing head lettuce of good quality and earliness of maturity. In the writer's judgment the lack of plant uniformity commonly observed in commercial lettuce culture is quite apt to be due to the use of seed which is variable in size and consequently, variable in value.

Danger of Overfeeding.

The danger of overfeeding in the case of young pigs is always inimical to maximum results.

Eggs Develop Mold.

Eggs develop mold if kept in a too damp cellar. The mold penetrates the porous shell and makes the eggs taste stale. They keep better, however, in a cool, moist air that prevents a too rapid evaporation within the shell.

Rejuvenating Rhubarb.

When rhubarb grows rank and spindling it needs rejuvenating. Dig it up, cut the clumps into smaller parts, plant them in deep trenches and fill in well with well-rotted manure mixed with good loam.

Partial to Rich Foods.

Young pigs are so partial toward foods rich in protein that they will acquire an excess of that element if given an opportunity, thereby stunting their growth.

Industry Just Recognized.

Pork production as a specialty is just becoming recognized. For many years the hog has, to a large extent, been a by-product of the feed lot wherein beef production was the standby.

THE TIMES' PAGE FOR THE FARMER

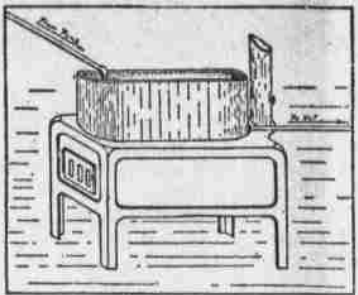
Live Stock

Farm Hints

BIG CONVENIENCE OF DAIRY

Low-Pressure Boiler Is Most Desirable for Heating Water for Cleaning Milk Vessels.

One of the greatest conveniences on the farm where cows are kept is some means for heating an abundance of water for washing the milk vessels. Where a considerable number of cows are kept, heating water by means of steam from a small, low-pressure upright boiler is desirable, but on the small farm a stove with a basin fitted



Water Heater.

into the top (or it may be separate from the top) can be purchased cheaply and will serve the purpose, provided the water is properly heated. Water can be pumped from the well directly into the basin. In order to avoid heating the milkroom and to do away with smoke and ashes, the water heater should be placed immediately outside the milkroom, and if elevated the water from it can be run into the washing vat. Such an arrangement is shown in the illustration.

FEEDING ROOTS TO CATTLE

English Stockmen Feed Enormous Quantities of Turnips and Beets—Best Methods of Feeding.

Turnips and beets are grown and fed in enormous quantities by English stockmen and farmers. They do not have silage because of climatic conditions unfavorable to corn. American farmers who use roots to some extent can wisely profit by English experience in feeding them.

An authority advises that they should always be cut or pulped, and never fed whole to cattle. When fed whole there is greater danger of choking, especially with the last piece, and also greater loss or waste by trampling under foot.

The best method of feeding is to cut or pulp the roots and mix them with cut hay, straw or chaff, allowing the pile to heat for a few hours before feeding. This has the merit of warming up the roots, which are generally a cold feed, and of making low-grade roughage more palatable. Cattle fed in this manner through the winter come out in much better condition than if given the same amount of feed uncut and not mixed.

FOR GROWING TOMATO PLANT

Hot-Bed-Grown Variety Produces Twice Amount of Those Started in Seed Bed in Ground.

According to investigations on tomato growing at the Indiana station, hot-bed-grown plants produced about twice as much fruit as those started in a seed bed in the open ground. Transplanting once or twice in flats gave a larger yield than planting directly from the hotbed soil.

The most profitable method for starting seedling plants consisted in sowing the seed in wood veneer bands in the hotbed and shifting the bands to the field at setting time with band and soil intact.

Plants started in a seed bed in the open ground gave estimated returns, less cost of growing the plants, of \$51.30 per acre, as compared with \$140.40 per acre for plants hotbed grown in veneer bands and set out without transplanting.

TURKEYS READY FOR MARKET

Big Mistake to Pen Up Flock of Birds for Purpose of Fattening—Worry for Freedom.

It is not to be wondered that there are so many failures made in preparing turkeys for market when it is taken into consideration the course so many breeders take in fattening their birds.

It is a mistake to pen up a flock of turkeys for the purpose of fattening them. Turkeys are of a wild nature, and as soon as they are cooped begin chasing one another about and constantly worrying for freedom.

They soon tire of their food, grow thin and will when killing time comes weigh less than when first cooped with the intention of fattening them.

Poultryman Always Busy.

There is not a day in the year when there is not something that should be done in the poultry yard, but if every day's duties are regularly performed, there will never be a day when its duties overflow into the next.

SPRAYING IN SPRING

Take Pains to Destroy "Flies" of the Pear Psylla.

Insects Are Sluggish in Their Movements in Early Months of Year, Making Them Quite Vulnerable to Treatment.

(By H. HODGKINS, New York.)

Especially pains should be taken to destroy the eggs as well as the winter "flies" of the pear psylla, as effective work greatly reduces the number of eggs deposited on the trees.

In early spring while the insects are able to crawl they are very sluggish in their movements. This habit makes them very vulnerable to treatment and the grower should take full advantage of it by so spraying that none of the insects be allowed to escape. It is to wet thoroughly all portions of the trees and especial care should be taken to force the liquid under the loose bark and into all the cracks and crevices in the bark. One tree should be thoroughly sprayed before proceeding to another, for in balmy weather the flies may dodge quickly to the opposite side of the tree. In planning this work be sure to select days when there is no danger of the spraying mixture freezing on the trees.

The eggs about to hatch and the young nymphs succumb easily to an application of lime-sulphur mixture. In this lies a very important hint to

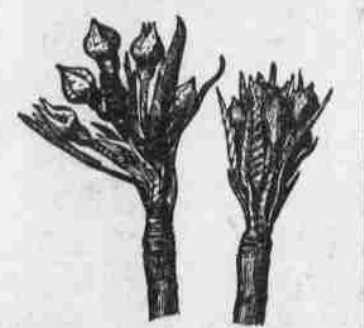


Illustration at Left Shows the Best Stage for Spraying to Destroy Psylla Eggs—At Right, Too Early for Effective Control.

the fruit grower. The eggs of the psylla are laid principally during April and commence to hatch early in May or when the blossom cluster-buds are beginning to separate at the tips. Most growers spray much earlier than this for the San Jose scale, but by postponing the treatment of pear orchards until the blossom clusters are well advanced one may deal an effective blow against the psylla and with the same treatment successfully combat the scale. The spray should be used in liberal quantities and pains should be exercised to wet all portions of the tree, especially the fruit spurs and the under sides of the young wood, where most of the eggs are laid.

Feeds Responsible for Loss.

A hog is a hog, and badly balanced rations and foods that are indigestible, are responsible for much loss. Many young pigs are severely injured by using them for the purpose of wasting food.

Value of Manures Varies.

Remember that the manurial value of farm manure varies according to the feed given and the bedding and absorbents used in saving the liquid portion.

Corn for Brood Sows.

The brood sows should not be given corn unless they are very thin in flesh and need to be built up.

Sows Require Exercise.

The sows must have exercise. They must not be confined in small pens.

Profitable Early Lambs.

If conditions are right, the early lambs are most profitable. If conditions are not right, the large percentage of loss on this account makes it unwise to try for early lambs.

Corn Makes Best Gains.

During the fattening period the previously built frame in the making of which protein is so essential is loaded with fat, a process in which corn makes the most economical gains.

Milk for Young Lamb.

The young lamb should have milk from the ewe very soon after it enters the world. If the quarters are cold and the lamb chilled, it may die.

Insure Healthy Litters.

Watchful care and good judgment in handling the sows will insure healthy litters, and it will pay for at the present price of pork, "pigs is pigs."

No Place for Misfit.

A horse will be a horse from now on for years, but there is no value or place for the misfit.

ONIONS RAISED FROM SEED

Industry Is Profitable If Proper Methods Are Used—Difficult to Keep Clean of Weeds.

Seed onions are of better flavor and keep longer and are more profitable to grow than sets, though some fall to grow them in the home garden because they are more difficult to keep clean of weeds.

The best way to raise onions from seed is by sowing the seed in a bed or cold frame early in the season and transplanting later to the row where they are to grow.

A small section of the hotbed will grow 1,000 plants until they are the size of quills, or they can be crowded. By that time the ground will be warm and all seed will have germinated so that the plants may be set in clean ground that has been worked over to kill all the young weeds.

If one lacks for room in the hotbed the seed may be sown in a sheltered place, an old brush heap, ash bed or some place where the soil is good.

If there is room to sow the seeds in drills six inches apart they may be worked some to keep them growing before they are transplanted.

When you are ready to transplant them, wet the ground and pull the plants and then cut off about half the top and slightly tip the roots.

Set the plants from two to three inches apart in the row and in rows of 15 inches apart. If very dry use water when transplanting and every one will live.

If the soil has been well manured with stable manure or poultry droppings and worked over several times before the onions are transplanted to the rows there will be but few weeds to contend with and the plants will not be checked in growth.

Onions should be pulled and placed to dry in the shade when the tops begin to turn yellow and drop over, which is usually in August.

ESSENTIAL FEATURE OF SOW

Besides Belonging to Prolific Family, Animal Should Have Well-Developed Nipples.

(By J. G. FULLER.)

Although she need not be purebred, the sow as well as the boar, should have marked characteristics of the chosen breed. By carefully selecting young sows from the most typical and largest litters and properly developing them, a splendid herd of females can be developed in a few years' time. To avoid any possibility of mistake, the choicest sow pigs from the best sows should be marked while they are still nursing their dams. They should not be penned or yarded with those which are being fattened for market, but, if possible, should be given freedom and exercise in the open, where a growing ration of green feeds, etc.,



A cement hog wallow should be located in a shady spot and contain eight or ten inches of water. Crude oil or coal tar dip poured on the water will keep swine free from lice and their skin in good condition.

are available. The sow should not be as compactly built as the boar and may be somewhat finer in conformation and bone. When in fair flesh at maturity, the most typical sows of the hard type weigh 350 to 450 pounds. A good breeder and mother cannot be picked with certainty until she has been tried out. Besides having the proper conformation and belonging to a prolific family, the ideal sow should have ten to twelve well-developed nipples. The essential feature of the sow is that she regularly produces large, strong litters of pigs and mothers them well.

GOOD COMMON HORSE SENSE

Never Water Animal Immediately After Being Fed Grain—Don't Change Rations Abruptly.

A horse should not be watered immediately after being fed grain. Idle horses should not be fed too much grain.

Have the horses' teeth examined once a year.

Do not continually dose your horse; keep him well by proper care. Horses cannot be kept in a thriving condition if they are compelled to get all their living from the straw stack.

Do not change the grain ration abruptly.

Possibilities of Pork.

The possibilities of expanding the production of pork are so great that we shall never see a scarcity of this product.

Waste Is Important Factor.

The element of waste is one of the most important factors in determining profits in hog feeding.

MISSOURI SUFFERERS FIND GREAT REMEDY

Thousands needlessly suffer from stomach ailments, handicapped in their work and pleasure. The stomach is the mainspring of life and the body cannot run without it.

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MRS. J. B. TRULLINGER of Norborne, Mo., wrote: "Words cannot express my appreciation of your medicine. I have felt fine all summer and fall. Am gaining weight."

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Mayr's Wonderful Remedy gives permanent results for stomach, liver and intestinal ailments. Eat as much and whatever you like. No more distress after eating, pressure of gas in the stomach and around the heart. Get one bottle of your druggist now and try it on an absolute guarantee—if not satisfactory money will be returned.—Adv.

Argument on Suffrage.

Two women were having a ladylike argument on suffrage in a New York street car. "I'm not so old-fashioned as to insist that our only place is in the home, but—" said the blonde. "Well?" asked the brunette, with battle in her dark eyes. "Couldn't we save all this trouble and fuss by just leaving things as they are? Why can't we go on letting the men represent us?" They do the very best they can, and everyone I know has a man somewhere or other in the family." The brunette's voice was calm, but firm. "Jack is a Republican and I am a Democrat. How can he represent me, when he can cast only one vote?" she inquired sternly. For a few minutes the little blonde sat very silent. Then she spoke. "Why, I never thought of that before. If you have a misrepresentative man in the family, I suppose you do need the vote." Her voice sank in a whisper. "But please don't say I said so."

Naturally.

"How about that bomb sensation?" "Oh, that's an exploded story."

Nothing kindles the fire of suspicion quicker than an unnecessary explanation.



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Official Denial

No War Tax on Homestead Land in Canada.

The report that a war tax is to be placed on homestead lands in Western Canada having been given considerable circulation in the United States, this is to advise all enquirers that no such tax has been placed, nor is there any intention to place a war tax of any nature on such lands. (Signed) W. D. Scott, Secy. of Immigration, Ottawa, Canada, March 10th, 1915.

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